

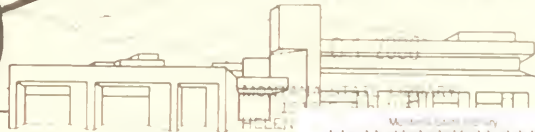
Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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News

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1987

Volume 16, No. 1

The Future of Coal Severance Tax Funding

The Legislature has moved into the second third of its 1987 session. The State Librarian, MLA Legislative Chair, and the Cultural Advocacy Lobbyist remain watchful as new bills continue to be introduced that impact libraries, particularly those dealing with de-earmarking, capping or cutting the Coal Severance Tax.

Montana law states, "...1% of the state special revenue fund to the credit of the State Library Commission for the purpose of providing basic library services for the residents of all counties through library federations..." Though we have come to depend on this statement, by April anything could happen.

A look at funding allocations from coal severance tax for federations for the six most recent years shows:

FEDERATION	FY 1981	FY 1982	FY 1983	FY 1984
Broad Valleys	\$ 73,121	\$ 73,175	\$ 67,205	\$ 73,001
Golden Plains	33,579	33,365	32,524	33,311
Pathfinder	62,776	62,228	57,394	62,087
Sagebrush	41,096	41,152	38,504	41,075
South Central	66,027	66,649	61,357	66,495
Tamarack	75,435	77,065	70,692	76,880
State Library*		77,300	73,549	61,268
TOTALS	\$352,033	\$430,934	\$400,225	\$414,117

FEDERATION	FY 1985	FY 1986
Broad Valleys	\$ 82,069	\$ 71,116
Golden Plains	36,106	32,834
Pathfinder	69,431	60,569
Sagebrush	45,097	40,238
South Central	74,535	64,839
Tamarack	70,280	74,886
State Library*	63,817	76,560
TOTALS	\$441,335	\$420,942

*Used to provide regional and national networking services.

continued on page 2

State Aid Hearing

In February, 1987, the annual State Aid Bill for libraries was heard by the Education and Cultural Advancement Committee. A bill representative later raised questions about the bill. It is part of the state's general budget and is there value in passing this bill at the moment? If not advisable, the bill would be withdrawn. In the end, there was an understanding and a bill was passed. The bill stated that libraries have changed a lot in the last 20 or 30 years... they provide a host of services to communities now. Testimony in support of this bill was given by Mary Jo Speth of the Library Commission, Ellen Wadsworth of Parkway Billings Public Library, Dick Swanson, Treasurer, Broad Valleys Federation Representative Judy Bonnsen, Harriet Meloy, a Montana citizen, Tony Hagner, County Commissioner from Hill County, and MEA and MFL representatives. Supporting testimony was also given by committee members Representatives Charles Swysoged, Dillon, and Richard Nelson, Kainpell. There were no opponents to speak against the bill.

continued on page 2

Continued from Page 1 Local Severance Tax

The projected local severance tax to federal lands for the future, where any estimates, are:

Category	FY 1987	FY 1988 (est.)	FY 1989 (est.)*
State Lands	\$ 14,000	\$ 40,187	\$ 47,112
Forest Lands	14,024	41,146	44,818
State Parks	40,200	40,140	12,700
Forest Lands	31,812	16,481	10,000
State Lands	14,040	41,385	10,140
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*Based on the assumption that the state will receive \$100,000,000 in 1989.

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

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Missoula Public Conducts Survey

The Missoula Public Library has recently completed a community survey of library users and non-users. This was conducted by Mary Frankel, a graduate student from the University of Montana. The purpose was to determine the community's perception of the library and to help plan for the future.

It was discovered that most users were from the city of Missoula, and that the majority of users were from the city of Missoula. The survey also found that the majority of users were from the city of Missoula.

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You have an insert in this newsletter that can be organized in your community as a reader poll to celebrate "The Year of the Reader", distribute ballots during National Library Week, April 5-11, in the library, bookstores, other locations in your community. Let kids vote, too. The poll is great PR for school and academic libraries.

Send in advance to local celebrities--radio and tv personalities, athletes, the mayor. Display responses with photos and books cited.

Camera-ready art for the ballot is provided in the 1987 Publicity Book's clip art section. All you do is photocopy or print, set up a "voting booth," publicize, and wait for the ballots to come pouring in.

You are free to compile the results for your community and announce to local press. Write a story for your school or campus newspaper. Let students do the compilation. Then, send the ballots to the ALA Public Information Office for compilation and release to national media. Send ballots:

Attention:
Year of the Reader Poll
Public Information Office
American Library
Association
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611.
Deadline:
April 25, 1987.



Representatives Larry Menke, Dennis Nathe, Library Commission Chair Mary Hudspeth discuss the State Act on at MLA's Legislative Buffet.

Around the State

Minda HROD is the new Circulation-Extension Librarian for the Great Falls Public Library and Patntinder Federation. A graduate of the University of Kentucky and North Texas State, she has taught library science, worked as a school/media librarian and academic librarian.

The Montana Room Endowment Fund of the Parnly Billings Library has received a gift of \$10,000 from Miss Alberta M. Bair. This second major gift by Miss Bair will be used to increase an endowment originally established in 1913 by members of the Frederick Billings family. Income is used to provide materials on the West and Montana, with special emphasis on south-central Montana. The Endowment Fund has a 1989 goal of expanding the Montana Room facilities to accommodate its growing collection.

The Montana Room Endowment Society will award two fellowships for research in some aspect of Montana history. The James H. Bradley Memorial Junior Fellowship for \$1000 will support research and production of a scholarly article. The James H. Bradley Local History Fellowship for \$1000 will fund a person or group to pursue research for a specific or ongoing Montana history project. Deadline for applications is March 10, 1987. Contact Bob Clark or Dale Winters at the Montana Historical Society, phone 444-2411.

Ellen Feaver, Director of the Department of Administration, has made an excellent contribution to both the public's access to state government and to improve library service throughout Montana by providing 130 copies of the State of Montana Telephone Directory. Thank you, Ellen.

continued on page 4

Montana State Library News - April 1, 1987, Volume 1, No. 1. Official publication of the 1987 conference of NATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA ASSOCIATION. Schools and libraries, public centers are urged to subscribe to the month with a subscription to the above. The purpose of the conference is to demonstrate the central role of the school library media center in making us a better place for readers.

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Victoria Gabriel, Interlibrary Loan staff of the State Library's Reference and Information Services generated the 33,000th request on the WCL Interlibrary Loan subsystem on Wednesday, November 19, 1986. The State Library has generated about 750 requests since the system became operational in mid-July. Interlibrary loan turnaround time has improved greatly for items available via the system. Ms. Gabriel reminds those libraries using the Interlibrary Loan Subsystem to please reply to requests (i.e., sent/received/return/received). This will make the process efficient and easy, and eliminate unnecessary items in the overdue file.

Debbie Schiesinger wrote this note after the January two-day workshop: "Many thanks to you all for the hard work, attention to detail, and loving care that you gave the Legislative Committee's workshop and reception. It was a satisfying two days due entirely to the work of all of you. It's a privilege for me to be involved with the Montana Library Association - a fantastic group of people. Again and again over the past months, people have volunteered their services, offered constructive suggestions, and gone the extra mile."

Many thanks to all of you and please keep up the enthusiasm over the coming months."

I would like to see the library open

as it is now, Tuesday to Saturday, 1 to 5.
Three full days (example Monday, Wednesday and Friday)
Evenings (which)
Any other

Please help us serve you better—clip out the form above, fill it out and mail to Box S or leave at Library.

Thank You
Library Board

The Public Library Board in White Sulphur Springs recently took a survey of their patrons by publishing this ad in the Meagher County News, their local newspaper. This public relations method of getting input from a community is a very simple, effective way of evaluating hours of service to an area.

Montana State Library News

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Montana State Library Commission

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Arvin Randall, Librarian

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